



Yuma County Sheriff's Office

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PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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DEA National Prescription Take-Back Day October 27, 2018

Location: YCSO Foothills Substation, 13190 E. South Frontage Road – Yuma, AZ

The Yuma County Sheriff's Office will be participating in the Drug Enforcement Administration's (DEA) National Prescription Take-Back Day on **Saturday, October 27, 2018** from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Medications for disposal can be dropped off at the YCSO Foothills Substation at 13190 E. South Frontage Road (The DEA cannot accept liquids, needles or sharps; only pills or patches). This service is free and anonymous, no questions asked.

This is the DEA's 16th take-back event, providing the public the opportunity to prevent pill abuse and theft by ridding their homes of potentially dangerous expired, unused, and unwanted prescription drugs.

Last April, more than 4,600 federal, state and local law enforcement partners took in more than 474 tons (over 949,000 pounds) of unused, expired or unwanted prescription drugs at approximately 5,800 collection sites across the United States. Overall, in its 15 previous Take Back events, the DEA and its partners have taken in over 9.9 million pounds—more than 4,900 tons—of used prescription drugs.

This initiative addresses a vital public safety and public health issue. Medicines that languish in home cabinets are highly susceptible to diversion, misuse, and abuse. Rates of prescription drug abuse in the U.S. are alarmingly high, as are the number of accidental poisonings and overdoses due to these drugs. Studies show that a majority of abused prescription drugs are obtained from family and friends, including from the home medicine cabinet. In addition, Americans are now advised that their usual methods for disposing of unused medicines—flushing them down the toilet or throwing them in the trash—both pose potential safety and health hazards.

If you miss this event, the Yuma County Sheriff's Office Main Office and Foothills Substation serve as full-time drop-off locations. For more information regarding the YCSO Prescription Drug Take-Back Program, please visit http://yumacountysheriff.org/services-drug_disposal.html.

Information Released By: Alfonso Zavala, Public Information Officer